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Claims

1.[CURRENTLY AMENDED]. A method for business decision support with a computing means for creating a part of an economic venture for evaluating human resources utilizing an information network with a plurality of members — a Professional Collaboration Network with at least one Professional layer and at least one Trust Layer comprising:

accessing a professional ability for at least one member, from the at least one Professional Layer with members wherein the professional ability of said members may be assessed using third party knowledge of said members;

accessing a Trust Reference for at least one member from the at least one Trust Layer with members, with linkages generated by dialog, thereby generating at least one connected network of members comprising pairs of connected members and each member of each of said connected networks of members being connected to every other member of said connected network through a series of pair-wise connections between members of one of said at least one Trust Layer in said connected network, and wherein a unique path along said pair-wise linkages between any two of said members with any one pair-wise linkage traversed only once, is a connection thread, and wherein the Trust Reference is generated by the contents of such a connection thread between any two members of said at least one Trust Network;

.combining for a First Member of the at least one Professional Layer and the at least one Trust Layer a user of the decision support system, with access to said response histories of members of at least one of said Professional Layers and linkages between members of at least one of said Trust Layers, wherein said user evaluates an evaluated the professional ability and the Trust Reference for at least one Second Member of the at least one Professional Layer and the at least one Trust Layermember wherein said evaluated member is a member of at least one of said Professional Layers and at least one of said Trust Networks;

thereby enabling the user of the decision support system to evaluate for said First Member, the professional reputation and Trust Reference of said evaluated at least one member Second Member using the response history of said evaluated at least one member Second Member and references of members in a connected network to which said at least one second evaluated member belongs.

2. <u>[CURRENTLY AMENDED]</u> A method for business decision support for creating an economic venture as in claim 1, <u>wherein said accessing the Trust Reference</u> from the at least one Trust Layer further comprising: